

Attorney Docket No. 033773M053

Patent

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Kouichi Yamima, et al.

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Serial No.: 10/694,179

Filed: October 28, 2003 - Group Art Unit: 1765

For:

METHOD OF PRODUCING A SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, Applicants are enclosing an Information Disclosure Citation Form (PTO-1449) which lists the references cited in an Austrian Search Report provided to the Singapore Registrar of Patents and issued for counterpart Singapore Patent Appln. No. 200306448-2 mailed March 2, 2005. According to the Search Report, U.S. Patent No. 6,448,151 is a family member of U.S. Publication No. 2002/016047.

It is believed that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement should be considered to have been cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. In any event, no fees are believed to be due because no office actions have yet issued for this case.

It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered by the Examiner in the above-identified patent application and that the cited documents be made officially of record therein. It is further requested that a listing of the same appear on the face of any patent which may issue from this application.

Respectfully submitted, SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By:

Michael A. Makuch, Reg. No. 32,263 1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 800

Washington, D.C. 20036 Telephone: (202) 659-2811

Fax: (202) 263-4329

March 24, 2005

| FORM PTO-1                   |           | ATION DISCLOS          | LIDE STATEMENT          | ATTY. DOCKET<br>33773M053 |                    | SERIAL NO.<br>10/694,179                                       |                  |              |                 |  |
|------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--|------------------|--------------|-----------------|--|
| 7                            |           |                        |                         |                           |                    | APPLICANT:  Kouichi Yamima, et al.  FILING DATE GROUP ART UNIT |                  |              |                 |  |
| MAR 2 4 2005 H               |           |                        |                         |                           | October 28, 2003   |  | 1765             |              |                 |  |
| PADEMARI                     | У         |                        | U.S. PATEN              | T DOCL                    | IMENTS             |  | <u></u>          |              |                 |  |
| *Examiner's<br>Initials      |           | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER     | DATE                    |                           | NAME               | CLASS  | SUB-<br>CLASS    | FILING I     | OATE,<br>PRIATE |  |
|                              | AA        | 2002/0016047           | 2/7/02                  | Tateis                    | ni                 |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AB        | 5,491,461              | 2/13/96                 | Partin                    | et al.             |  | ,                |              |                 |  |
|                              | AC        | 6,448,151              | 9/10/02                 | Tateis                    | ni                 |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AD        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
| · · · · · ·                  | AE        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AF        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AG        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              |           |                        | FOREIGN PAT             | ENT DO                    | CUMENTS            |  |                  | 1            |                 |  |
| *Examiner's                  | 1         | DOCUMENT               | DATE                    | COUNTRY                   |                    | CLASS  | SUB- TRANSLATION |              |                 |  |
| Initials                     | AH        | NUMBER<br>09-134893    | 5/20/97                 |                           | Japan              |  | CLASS            | YES Abstract | NO              |  |
|                              |           | 09-134093              | 3/20/91                 |                           | <b>Јаран</b>       |  |                  | Only         |                 |  |
|                              | Al        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AJ        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AK        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AL        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AM        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AN        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AO        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AP        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AQ        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AR        |                        |                         |                           | 1,400              | 7  |                  |              |                 |  |
| _                            | 1         | OTHER INFORM           | MATION (Including       | Author, T                 | itle, Date, Pertin | ent Pages, I   | Etc.)            |              |                 |  |
|                              | AS        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
|                              | AT        |                        |                         |                           |                    |  |                  |              |                 |  |
| EXAMINER:                    |           |                        |                         | DA                        | TE CONSIDERED      | •  |                  |              |                 |  |
| *EXAMINER:<br>not in conform | Initial i | f reference considered | ered, whether or not ci | tation is ir form with    | conformance with   | MPEP 609;<br>on to applicar                                    | Draw line<br>nt. | through cita | ation if        |  |